

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Jennifer Stein, (623) 930.2958
Marketing/Communications Department

WINTER RAINS BRING ABOUT A PESKY PROBLEM, BUT GLENDALE'S CODE COMPLIANCE DEPARTMENT OFFERS ADVICE

GLENDALE, Ariz. -- The winter rains are always a welcome weather condition to our dry Valley. But this much-appreciated water does come with a pesky price—weeds and overgrown grass!

With all the recent rain, many homeowners are going to be faced with rapid weed and grass growth in the next few weeks. Not only do overgrown weeds and grass pose a fire risk, but they also cause blight in a neighborhood. The Glendale Code Compliance Department is encouraging residents to take steps now to control weeds and grass before it becomes a problem.

To help residents and business owners win the battle against weeds, Code Compliance officials urge you to follow the following helpful hints from Valley horticulture experts:

- Keep grass cut and trimmed in your yard, along buildings and fences.
- Dig out already emerged weeds early before they get out-of-control.
- Use an herbicide (like Roundup) on large weed areas, but be sure to keep it away from other vegetation.
- Apply pre-emergent weed killers twice a year (fall and late winter before major rains is best).
- Stay on top of it! A little weeding twice a week will help you avoid a big job down the road.



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City of Glendale
5850 W. Glendale Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85301
(623) 930-2960
www.glendaleaz.com

With the dry weather the past two years, the potential for overgrown vegetation has not been significant. However, with the recent rains, this season is expected to be much like early winter and spring of 2005 when there was unprecedented rainfall and the city's Code Compliance Department experienced a 115-percent increase in cases for overgrown grass/weeds alone. The overgrowth is commonly found in a residential yard, vacant lot or upon a right-of-way.

A problem associated with uncut weeds is that they attract insects such as mosquitoes. Eliminating weeds is one way to help minimize the spread of West Nile Virus. Another issue with weeds and grass stems from the growing number of foreclosures, so it is important to report overgrown weeds and grass in your neighborhood.

Residents can find more information about property maintenance minimum standards at www.glendaleaz.com/codecompliance or by calling 623.930.3610.

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